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# Informational Hearing on the Light Brown Apple Moth Eradication Strategy in the San Francisco Bay Area: Health and Environmental Impacts

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Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety  
and Toxic Materials - February 14, 2008



Paul Schramski, State Director

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# Environmental and Health Impacts

## A Review of the CDFA LBAM Eradication Program

### Elected Officials, Scientists and Residents are Concerned About LBAM Spraying

*“It’s a public health issue.”*

- Albany Mayor Robert Lieber, RN, *Berkeley Daily Planet*

*“There’s no doubt that more and more people are becoming sensitized to chemicals.”*

- Environmental Allergist Dr. Doris Rapp, *Watsonville Register-Pajaronian*

*“Testing by the manufacturer, and EPA so far is clearly inadequate to determine the long term chronic health risks to the general population that would occur in these disease categories with the aerial spraying of these pesticides.”*

- Dr. Larry Rose, Former Senior Medical Director Cal/OSHA, via email



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# Environmental and Health Impacts

## A Review of the CDFA LBAM Eradication Program

- Elected Officials, Scientists and Residents are Concerned About LBAM Spraying

**OVER 643 Monterey Bay Area residents have reported adverse health affects as a result of spraying.** (Lynberg, Jan 3, 2008.)

- Headaches
- Blurred Vision
- Difficulty Breathing
- Chest Pains
- Skin Rashes



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# Environmental and Health Impacts

## A Review of the CDFA LBAM Eradication Program

### ■ Elected Officials, Scientists and Residents are Concerned About LBAM Spraying

- ❑ Breast Cancer Action
- ❑ Breast Cancer Fund
- ❑ CALPIRG
- ❑ Coalition for Clean Air
- ❑ Environment California
- ❑ Physicians for Social Responsibility - LA
- ❑ Planning and Conservation League Fund



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# Environmental and Health Impacts

## A Review of the CDFA LBAM Eradication Program

- SHIFTING THE BURDEN FROM RESIDENTS –  
Safety Concerns of Pheromone-Pesticide
  - ❑ Untested Urban Effects
  - ❑ Unknown “Inert” or “Other” Ingredients
  - ❑ Plastic Encapsulation
  - ❑ Long-Term Exposure
  - ❑ Size



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# Environmental and Health Impacts

## A Review of the CDFA LBAM Eradication Program

### ■ SHIFTING THE BURDEN FROM RESIDENTS – Safety Concerns of Pheromone-Pesticide

#### □ Untested Urban Effects

*“During more than 10 years of use of lepidopteran pheromones, no adverse effects have been reported. ... The safety record for lepidopteran pheromones has allowed the Agency to conclude that consumption of food containing residues of the pheromones presents no risk. ...Adverse effects on non target organisms (mammals, birds, and aquatic organisms) are not expected because these pheromones are released in very small amounts to the environment and act in a select group of insects. ... This statement refers primarily to the pheromone active ingredients generally used in emitter devices or aerial application over agricultural areas rather than aerial application over populated areas (such as in the present situation).”*

– CDPR/OEHHA Consensus Statement, Nov. 16, 2007



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# Environmental and Health Impacts

## A Review of the CDFA LBAM Eradication Program

### ■ SHIFTING THE BURDEN FROM RESIDENTS – Safety Concerns of Pheromone-Pesticide

#### □ Untested Urban Effects

*“One cannot conclude from these studies that Checkmate is a safe product to aerial spray over an urban population, nor can one guarantee that longer-term, repeated exposures of humans are without risk.”*

- **Dr. Richard Philip,**  
**University of Western Ontario, Oct 31, 2007**



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# Environmental and Health Impacts

## A Review of the CDFA LBAM Eradication Program

### ■ SHIFTING THE BURDEN FROM RESIDENTS –

#### Safety Concerns of Pheromone-Pesticide

##### □ Unknown “Inert” or “Other” Ingredients

- “Active” Pheromone ingredients make up less than 1/3 of pesticide products Checkmate LBAM-F and OLR-F
- “Other” ingredients are chemically and toxicologically active and should be fully disclosed. Disclosed products are listed as (NIOSH 2008):
  - Tumorigens
  - Mutagens
  - Reproductive Effectors
  - Primary Irritant





# Environmental and Health Impacts

## A Review of the CDFA LBAM Eradication Program

### ■ SHIFTING THE BURDEN FROM RESIDENTS – Safety Concerns of Pheromone-Pesticide

#### □ Size – Small and Large Matter

■ *“Because the microcapsules ranged in size from approximately 10 microns to 190 microns, and are hydrophobic...”*

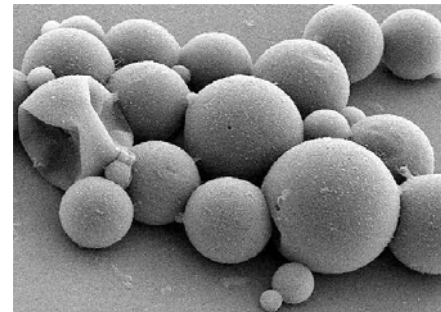
- Werner I, Deanovic LA, Markiewicz D. 2007. University of California, Davis.

*“Of greatest concern to public health are the particles [PM10] small enough to be inhaled into the deepest parts of the lung.”*

- **American Lung Association of California**

*“However, such large particles are likely to be deposited in the nasal passages, pharynx, larynx, and tracheo-bronchial region and are either absorbed or moved to the larynx and swallowed.”*

- **CDPR/OEHHA Consensus Statement, Nov. 16, 2007**



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# Environmental and Health Impacts

## A Review of the CDFA LBAM Eradication Program

- SHIFTING THE BURDEN FROM RESIDENTS –  
Safety Concerns of Pheromone-Pesticide

- Long-Term Exposure

*“Chronic toxicity is not addressed in this document because there will not be long-term exposure to the pheromone product.”*

– Department of Pesticide Regulation/Office of Environmental Health  
Hazard Assessment Consensus Statement, Nov. 16, 2007

- 2 – 10 year projected spray timeline
  - “Chronic” > 1 year (ATSDR)



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# Environmental and Health Impacts

## A Review of the CDFA LBAM Eradication Program

### ■ Conclusions

- ❑ Hundreds of Reported Health Complaints
- ❑ Numerous Scientific Questions Raised

### ■ Recommendations

- ❑ Establish Good-Faith Moratorium on Aerial Spraying
- ❑ Conduct Full Environmental And Health Impact Reports On All Controls

